

COLLEGE FOOTBALL.

MUSCLE TAKES RANK ABOVE INTELLECTUAL ATTAINMENTS.

Rev. Madison C. Peters Deplores the Disgraceful Thanksgiving Orgies in New York—Plain Talk on Christian Duty and Ostentatious Prayer.

The present athletic craze is a reaction from the unwise indifference of the past. In the college halls where Minerva once held away Hercules is now enshrined. The principal talk among college men is football, and our colleges and students take rank not according to their intellectual attainments and manly character, but according to the size of the biceps muscle and the record in some sort of sport.

Sin committed in the pursuit of pleasure is as sinful as if done for the sake of profit. Thanksgiving day among the people generally has more to do with the stomach than with the service of God, and with the students especially it has within several years become the day when lads get on their first spree.

The sights enacted in New York city Thanksgiving night by the college men—the taking possession of saloons, breaking up theaters, blowing horns in people's faces, kissing unprotected women on the public streets, carrying them on their shoulders, drinking themselves drunk, shouting themselves hoarse, and singing with Bowery tough bravado—were a disgrace to our civilization, and the colleges and universities which tolerate such depravities should be consistent and drop the name of Christian.

LIKE WILD INDIANS.

A thousand wild Indians or monkeys turned loose could not have acted worse than did the respectable sons of praying mothers from colleges and universities founded by Christian patriots.

That these excessive college sports unfit the students who take part in them for the active work of life is evident from the fact that the majority of our best scholars and most successful men come from the smaller colleges; and if the rich men believe in developing the brains of the country, let them endow the hundreds of small, struggling colleges throughout the land.

On a day set apart by the president of the United States of America for thanksgiving to God for his goodness of the year, cultured gentlemen fight like madness, goaded by 25,000 people, as if bereft of their reason, sitting nearly five hours in the chilling blasts and yelling themselves hoarse. It shows a tendency in our national life that not only poisons the young, but may plague our fair republic into the grave of the dead nations of history.

Charity.

Charity is the brightest star in the Christian's diadem. With Cotton, let us pray:

Fair charity, be thou my guest,
And be thy constant couch my breast.

Charity "thinketh no evil." With an unwilling ear and sad heart it hears bad news. It glories in no man's misfortune. It rather holds down its head and partakes of his shame. It rejoices in the belief that everybody is sincere. Where it cannot succor want it will condole.

MADISON C. PETERS.

It is a great thing to love Christ so dearly as to be "ready to be bound and to die" for him, but it is often a thing not less great to be ready to take up our daily cross and to live for him.—John Caird.

INCOMPLETENESS.

However much there seems to be
In any life, of sweetness;
And unalloyed felicity
There still is incompleteness.

When we have reached the goal we seek,
The height of life's inquiring,
We often find the mountain bleak
To which we've been aspiring.

Where is a song so sweet we're sure
There is not still a sweeter?
Where is a life so good and pure
There is not one completer?

Where is the thought so grand and terse,
So like thought's own Creator,
That somewhere in the universe
There may not be a greater?

Where is a grief so deep and dense
And black with mortal sorrow,
That it may not find recompense
Somewhere in Hope's to-morrow?

These broken and discordant moans
Our lives have long out-given,
May yet be mellowed till their tones
Make harmonies for heaven.

This life at best can never be
With all its fine contriving,
More than a moving tendency,
A ceaseless upward striving.

—Jno. W. Eddy, in *The Chautauquan* for February.

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